(ग) राज्य सरकार के प्राप्त सूचना के अनुसार वन ग्रामों की स्थापना 25.10.80 से पहले की गई थी और वन भूमि पर खेती करने के लिए वन ग्राम वासियों को अस्थायी पट्टे दिए गए थे। तथापि, 25.10.80 से पहले राज्य सरकार ने इन वन ग्रामों के तहत वन भूमि को अनारक्षित करने के लिए कोई विशिष्ट आदेश जारी नहीं किए थे। केन्द्र सरकार ने इन वन ग्रामों को राजस्व ग्रामों में परिवर्तित करने के लिह राज्य सरकार को प्राधिकृत नहीं किया है।

(घ) मध्य प्रदेश सरकार से प्राप्त एक पत्र के उत्तर में यह स्पष्ट किया गया है कि वन ग्रामों को राजस्व ग्रामों में परिवर्तित करने के लिए वन (संरक्षण) अधिनियम, 1980 के अंतर्गत केन्द्र सरकार का पूर्व अनुमोदन प्राप्त करना अपेक्षित है।

National Forest Policy, 1988

1586. SHRI MYODEK YONGGAM : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the National Forest Policy, 1988 it was recommended to convert forests villages into revenue villages in selected areas of the country;

(b) if so, how many villages have been converted into revenue villages in the country-state-wise;

(c) whether such converted villages have attained their economic up-liftment; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) The National Forest Policy, 1988 envisages development of forest villages on par with revenue villages. This issue was examined by an inter-Ministerial Committee set up by this Ministry. Based on their recommendations, guidelines were issued to all Stale/Union Territory Governments on 18.9.1990 for conversion of forest villages into revenue villages after obtaining prior approval of Government of India under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. (b) to (d) Proposals have been received from the States of Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, which are under examination.

Death of animals in Delhi Zoo

1587. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the capital's zoo man animals and birds died for want of proper food and suitable medicines in the recent years;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof for the last three years;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a number of extinct creatures died naturally because of lack of their particular environment and many are destroyed by the direct influence of man;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what remedial action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The environment in captivity, as provided by any zoo, cannot be treated at par with the particular environment in which a free ranging wild animal is found in nature. However, captive zoo animals adjust to same extent to the environment in captivity provided by the zoos. In the National Zoological Park, there has not been any specific case of death which can be attributed primerily to lack of an animal's particular environment. There is a report of death of a Zebra 1987 which had swallowed a polythene bag which was in thrown inside the enclosure along with food by some visitors.

(e) Action taken to improve the living conditions of animals in the zoo include:

(a) Reinforcement of the boundary walls of the zoo and improvement of the protective enclosure barriers.

(b) Provision of supply of filtered

water separately for drinking in every enclosure.

(c) Elimination of stray dogs from the campus of the zoo.

(d) Strengthening of the security in the zoo.

(e) Periodic and frequent checks regarding quality and quantity of food are made through different category of officials.

(f) Periodic checks are made to see that the animals are in good health and are eating properly.

(g) Prophylatic medicines and veterinary care are given by a full time veterinary officer of the zoo on prevent infectious disease. Besides, assistance of other veterinary officers from outside the zoo is also taken, as and when required.

Denotification of Narayan Sarovar Sanctuary, Gujarat

1588. DR. BAPU KALDATE:

SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the denotification of the Narain Sarovar Sanctuary in the Kutch region in Gujarat in violation of the norms laid down for such denotifications;

(b) whether the mandatory legislative sanction under the Wildlife Protection Act and Centre's clearance under the Forest Conservation Act had been obtained before denotifying the sanctuary; and

(c) if not, what is the reaction of Government with regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONEMNT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) The Government of Gujarat have cancelled its Notifications of the Agriculture, Forests and Cooperation Department No. AKH/62/81/WLP/ 1080/110872/P2 dated the 14th April, 1981 vide its Gazette Notification No. CVN-16(93) WLP/1092/2156/V2 dated the 27th July, 1993 thereby denotifying 765.79 sq. kms. of area of Narayan Sarovar Wildlife Sanctuary and also declared 94.87 sq. kms. of reserve forest as Chinkara Wildlife Sanctuary vide its Notification No. GVN-17(93)-WLP/1092-2156 V2 dated the 27th July, 1993.

(b) and (c) Denotification of a Sanctuary does not come under the purview of Forest (Conservaion) Act unless recorded forest lands are diverted for non-forestry use. Since no alteration of the bounderies of a sanctuary can be made except on a resolution passed by the legislature of the State, the Central Government is in correspondence with the State Government to know if the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act have been followed in cancelling the notification of the sanctuary. The response from the State Government is awaited.

Illegal Hunting of Wild Animals in Gujarat

1589. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidents of illegal hunting of wild animals in Gujarat have come to the notice of Government during the last two years;

(b) if so, what is the number of persons arrested and action taken against them;

(c) whether Government have formulated any scheme for combating illegal hunting of wild animals; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH):(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During 1991-92 and 1992-93, 41 and 50 persons were arrested respectively.